

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A drive rod string for a progressive cavity pump comprising:

2 a plurality of drive rods, each drive rod having a pair of opposed ends, wherein each said
3 end terminates in a frustoconical pin having tapered threading and having a radially extending cylindrical
4 shoulder, wherein each said frustoconical pin cylindrical shoulder has a surface which is roughened in
5 excess of normal or inherent roughness;

6 a plurality of connectors, each connector attached to one said end of a pair of said drive
7 rods, wherein each said connector has a pair of opposed frustoconical threaded recesses which extend
8 from a pair of shoulders which mate with said cylindrical shoulders of said frustoconical pins, wherein each
9 said connector pair of shoulders have surfaces which are roughened in excess of normal or inherent
10 roughness such that the coefficient of friction between said roughened surfaces of said connector pair of
11 shoulders and said roughened surfaces of said frustoconical pin cylindrical shoulders is increased and
12 wherein said mating of said roughened surfaces resists rotational movement; and

13 an internal secondary stop within said connector acting as a positive stop in each said
14 connector for said frustoconical pin, wherein said internal secondary stop is spaced from each frustoconical
15 pin until said pin is elongated from stress.

1 2. (Canceled)

1 3. (Canceled)

1 4. (Currently Amended) A drive rod string as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said ~~drive rod string~~
2 ~~connectors~~ ~~plurality of drive rods and plurality of connectors~~ can accommodate up to 1,750 foot pounds
3 of torque to said drive rod string.

1 5. (Currently Amended) A connector for a pair of drive rods, wherein each drive rod
2 terminates in a frustoconical pin having tapered threading and having a radially extending cylindrical shoulder
3 with substantially no undercut between said tapered threading and said shoulder and wherein said
4 cylindrical shoulder has a roughened surface in excess of normal or inherent roughness, which connector
5 comprises:

6 a pair of opposed frustoconical threaded recesses, each said frustoconical recess extending
7 from a shoulder which will mate with said cylindrical shoulder of said frustoconical pin; and
8 an internal secondary stop within said connector between said frustoconical threaded
9 recesses which acts as a positive stop.

1 6. (Original) A drive rod string as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said internal secondary stop
2 is normally spaced from said frustoconical pin when said pin is threaded into said recess.

1 7. (Original) A method of operating a progressive cavity device, which method comprises:
2 positioning a progressive cavity device downhole in a well by attaching a drive rod string
3 to said device, wherein said drive rod string includes a plurality of drive rods, each drive rod having a pair
4 of opposed ends, each said end terminating in a frustoconical pin having tapered threading and having a

5 radially extending cylindrical shoulder and includes a plurality of connectors, each connector having a pair
6 of opposed frustoconical threaded recesses, each said frustoconical recess extending from a shoulder which
7 will mate with said cylindrical shoulder of said frustoconical pin; and
8 rotating said drive rod string to power said progressive cavity device.